

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Michael J. Lemon	Examiner:	Srilakshmi Kumar
Serial No.:	09/884,549	Group Art Unit:	2629
Filed:	June 19, 2001	Docket No.:	10007916-1
Title:	Digital Annotator		

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Appeal Brief is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 6, 2007 and Notice of Appeal filed on January 5, 2008.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP, a limited partnership established under the laws of the State of Texas and having a principal place of business at 20555 S.H. 249 Houston, TX 77070, U.S.A. (hereinafter "HPDC"). HPDC is a Texas limited partnership and is a wholly-owned affiliate of Hewlett-Packard Company, a Delaware Corporation, headquartered in Palo Alto, CA. The general or managing partner of HPDC is HPQ Holdings, LLC.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no known related appeals, judicial proceedings, or interferences known to appellant, the appellant's legal representative, or assignee that will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Appeal Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 15, and 17 – 20 are pending in the application and stand finally rejected. Claims 4 and 16 were canceled. The rejection of claims 1 – 3, 5 – 15, and 17 – 20 is appealed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments were made after receipt of the Final Office Action. All amendments have been entered.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The following provides a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the claims involved in the appeal, referring to the specification by page and line number and to the drawings by reference characters, as required by 37 C.F.R.

§ 41.37(c)(1)(v). Each element of the claims is identified by a corresponding reference to the specification and drawings where applicable. Note that the citation to passages in the specification and drawings for each claim element does not imply that the limitations from the specification and drawings should be read into the corresponding claim element or that these are the sole sources in the specification supporting the claim features.

Claim 1

A computer annotator system for accessing Internet data addresses, the system comprising:

- an electronic tablet (Figs. 2, #205) having a screen with plural predefined regions that receive handwritten mnemonic symbols that are hints for different Internet data addresses (A digitizer tablet 205 has a surface 207 on which a writing device creates symbols or visible markings:[0023]. The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface: [0025]);

- a marking stylus (Fig. 2C; #211) associated with the tablet ([0023], [0025]);

- a device (Figs. 2, #203) for associating the plural predefined regions with the Internet data addresses (Fig. 2C, #209), wherein subsequently accessing one of the predefined regions with said stylus triggers a shift, on a display separate from the tablet, to one of said Internet data addresses associated with a handwritten mnemonic symbol in the one of the predefined regions (The user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. [0023] – [0030]).

Claim 5

A method for indexing computer-accessible Internet sites, the method comprising:
accessing a first of said sites with an electronic device (Fig. 2B, [0024]: User browses to a website.);

associating an address indicative of the first of said sites with a first location coordinate address on a computer writing tablet, separate from said electronic device, via a first handwritten mnemonic symbol that is a user recognizable hint for the first of said sites, the hint for the first of said sites being on a first random location on said writing tablet during access of said first of said sites (A digitizer tablet 205 has a surface 207 on which a writing device creates symbols or visible markings:[0023]. The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface. Fig. 2C, [0025]);

accessing a second of said sites (User accesses a second site about Thomas Jefferson and writes a hint, TJ: Fig. 2D, [0026]); and

associating an address indicative of the second of said sites with a second location coordinate address on the computer writing tablet via a second handwritten mnemonic symbol that is a user recognizable hint for the second of said sites, the hint for the second of said sites being on a second random location on said writing tablet during access of said second of said sites (The user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. Fig. 2E, [0026]).

Claim 8

A method for using a computer writing tablet, the method comprising:
associating an input-output port of the computer writing tablet with signals indicative of Internet-associated computer data addresses (A computer is coupled to a digitizer: [0023]);

when each of a plurality of the Internet-associated computer data addresses is accessed on a computer separate from the computer writing tablet ([0024]), writing a mnemonic object on said computer writing tablet ([0025]), wherein a location on said

computer writing tablet of the mnemonic object is coupled to a current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses and said mnemonic object is handwritten and a user recognizable hint for the current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses (The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface. [0025] and [0027]); and

accessing any specific one of said plurality of the Internet-associated computer data addresses by selecting the mnemonic object associated therewith (The user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. [0028] – [0029]).

Claim 11

A computerized method comprising:

accessing an internet site with an electronic device (User accesses a website about George Washington: [0024]);

receiving a handwritten symbol for the internet site on a screen of a computer writing tablet that is separate from the electronic device, the handwritten symbol being a user recognizable hint for the internet site (The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface. [0025] and [0027]); and

selecting the handwritten symbol on the computer writing tablet to cause the electronic device to navigate to the internet site (The user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. [0028] – [0029]).

Claim 15

A computer memory comprising:

computer code for recording temporary symbols (Figs. 2 and 3, #213 and #215) associated with an Internet site address on a display of an electronic device, the temporary symbols being handwritten by a user and a user recognizable hint for the Internet site (The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface. Fig. 2C, #209; [0024] – [0025]);

computer code associating the internet site address with a writable-erasable mnemonic device in a computer writing tablet (Figs. 2, #205), separate from the electronic device, for receiving said temporary symbols (The user writes the symbols on a digitizer tablet 205; [0023]); and

computer code for accessing said Internet site address by clicking said temporary symbols displayed on a display of the computer writing tablet (The user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. [0028] – [0029]).

Claim 17

An internet search tool comprising;

an internet access device (A computer that accesses the internet: Figs. 2, #203; [0023]);;

in communication with the internet access device, a writing digitizer tablet (Figs. 2, #205) and associated inking stylus (Fig. 2C, #211; [0025]); and

associated with the combination of internet access device, writing digitizer tablet and stylus, program code using said digitizer tablet for generating bookmarks (Fig. 3, #213, #215; [0026]) thereon related to respective search resultant internet sites such that said sites are accessible directly via said bookmarks, wherein each of said bookmarks is a handwritten mnemonic hint that is user recognizable as a previously selected internet site address (The user writes a symbol (such as GW to represent George Washington) or other

mnemonic hint associated with a website on the writing surface. Fig. 2C, #209; [0024] – [0025]. Further, the user 200 uses the inking tablet 205 surface 207 to create visible mnemonic hints 213, 215 related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint 213, 215 index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site. [0028] – [0029]).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-20 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 7,091,959 (Clary) in view of USPN 6,002,853 (deHond) and US publication number 2002/0077143 (Sharif).

VII. ARGUMENT

The rejection of claims 1 – 3, 5 – 15, and 17 – 20 is improper, and Applicants respectfully request reversal of these rejections.

The claims do not stand or fall together. Instead, Applicants present separate arguments for various claims. Each of these arguments is separately argued below and presented with separate headings and sub-heading as required by 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(vii).

Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 101

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is traversed.

Claim 15 is directed to an apparatus: computer memory. Computers generally comprise a processor and memory coupled to the processor through various buses. The memory stores data and/or instructional code that are executed by the processor. As discussed in specification, the computer memory “holds the associated value associated with the mnemonic hint, viz., the web site URL for http://www.mount_vernon.com” (see [0027]). Thus, memory in a computer (such as ROM or RAM) is tangible, physical memory that stores code and/or data.

The specification incorporates by reference several issued patents (see paragraph [0005]). By way of example, US patent number 6,050,490 discusses a CPU 53 that is coupled to internal memory 55 (see Figure 2 in USPN 6,050,490). The CPU formats and writes data to this memory.

Under 35 USC § 101, patentable subject matter must have two basic criteria. First, the subject matter must be one of processes, machines, manufacturers, and compositions of matter. Generally, three categories are not included as patentable subject matter: (1) abstract ideas, (2) laws of nature, and (3) natural phenomena. Second, the subject matter to be patented must be “useful.” Applicants’ claimed subject matter meets both of these criteria.

Applicants contend that independent claim 1 recites “a computer memory.” Computer memory is a machine or apparatus. As discussed above and supported in the

specification and patent incorporated reference, the computer memory is tangible hardware coupled to the processor in a computer. Clearly, computer memory is within the definition of 35 USC § 101 as being a machine or apparatus.

Furthermore, claim 15 has a practical application in the technological arts since the claims produce a concrete, tangible, and useful result. In other words, the claim recites at least one step or one act that produces something that is concrete, tangible, and useful. By way of illustration only, claim 15 recites computer code that accesses an Internet site address by clicking on temporary symbols displayed on a display of the computer writing tablet. As discussed in the specification, a user uses the inking tablet surface to create visible mnemonic hints that related to Internet sites of interest. At any time during which a current mnemonic hint index is stored in memory, it can be tapped or clicked on and the computer will jump to the associated site.

The Examiner appears to be arguing that claim 15 is directed to code. This is not true. The preamble clearly recites an apparatus: computer memory. As explained above and supported in the specification, computer memory can store instructions or code that is executed by a computer. The claim, however, is directed to the apparatus of computer memory.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully asks the Board of Appeals to reverse the rejection of the Examiner.

Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-20 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 7,091,959 (Clary) in view of USPN 6,002,853 (deHond) and US publication number 2002/0077143 (Sharif). These rejections are traversed.

Claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-20 recites one or more elements that are not taught or suggested in Clary in view of deHond and Sharif. These missing elements show that the differences between the combined teachings in the art and the recitations in the claims are great. As such, the pending claims are not a predictable variation of the art to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Some examples of these missing claim elements are provided below for the independent claims. These independent claims are separately argued with separate sub-headings labeled sub-heading 1 – sub-heading 6.

Sub-Heading 1: Claim 1

The Examiner **admits** that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 3). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 1 recites an electronic tablet having a screen to receive “handwritten” mnemonic symbols. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 1. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 1 recites that the handwritten mnemonic symbols are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]). Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 1 recites the following (emphasis added):

wherein subsequently accessing one of the predefined regions with said stylus triggers a shift, on a display separate from the tablet, to one of said Internet data addresses associated with a **handwritten mnemonic symbol** in the one of the predefined regions.

The Office Action admits that Clary does not teach this recitation. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten mnemonic symbols.”

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As another example, claim 1 recites “an electronic tablet having a screen with plural predefined regions that receive handwritten mnemonic symbols that are hints for different Internet data addresses.”

The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a mnemonic symbol for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a mnemonic symbol for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 1 recites that the mnemonic symbol is a hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter “hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

According to MPEP § 2111.01, the words of a claim must be given their “plain meaning.” Merriam-Webster has an online dictionary (www.m-w.com) that defines “mnemonic” as: “assisting or intending to assist memory” and defines the word “symbol”

as: “something that stands for or suggests something else by reason of relationship, association, convention, or accidental resemblance.” Merriam-Webster further defines the word “hint” as: “a statement conveying by implication what it is preferred not to say explicitly.” Applicant states that Clary does not teach or suggest receiving “mnemonic symbols” that are “hints” for internet addresses per the plain meaning of these terms.

Applicant acknowledges that claims must be given their broadest interpretation during patent examination. However, this interpretation must be a “**reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification**” (see MPEP 2111: emphasis added). Applicant’s specification repeatedly uses the terms “mnemonic symbol” that are “hints” for internet addresses in a manner consistent with the plain meaning of these terms. Applicant’s specification provides an example of this recitation:

As depicted by FIG. 2C, using an inking stylus 211 associated with the tablet 205, the end-user 200 writes a symbol – in this example “GW” – or any other mnemonic hint 213 associated with the site on the writing surface 207. As a result of this action, the geometric coordinates of the visible mnemonic hint 213 become an index for the URL of the current web page – e.g., http://www.mount_vernon.com – in accordance with the present invention as described in more detail hereinafter. (See paragraph [0025])

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

Sub-Heading 2: Claim 5

The Examiner **admits** that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 4). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 5 recites a computer writing tablet to receive “handwritten” mnemonic

symbols. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 5. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 5 recites that the handwritten mnemonic symbols are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]). Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 5 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 5 recites the following (emphasis added):

associating an address indicative of the first of said sites with a first location coordinate address on a computer writing tablet, separate from said electronic device, via a first **handwritten mnemonic symbol** that is a user recognizable hint for the first of said sites, the hint for the first of said sites being on a first random location on said writing tablet during access of said first of said sites;

associating an address indicative of the second of said sites with a second location coordinate address on the computer writing tablet via a second **handwritten mnemonic symbol** that is a user recognizable hint for the second of said sites, the hint for the second of said sites being on a second random location on said writing tablet during access of said second of said sites.

The Office Action appears to admit that Clary does not teach variations these recitations. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten mnemonic symbols.”

For at least these reasons, claim 5 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As another example, claim 5 recites a writing tablet having a handwritten mnemonic symbol. The symbol is a user recognizable hint for an internet site. The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a mnemonic symbol for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a mnemonic symbol for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 5 recites that the mnemonic symbol is a user recognizable hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter “hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to interpret the words in claim 5 in accordance with their plain meaning.

For at least these reasons, claim 5 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 5 recites that the mnemonic symbols are on a random location on the writing tablet. Clary actually teaches away from this recitation. As shown in Fig. 3 of Clary, the user enters the email address at predefined locations on the predefined form.

For at least these reasons, claim 5 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

Sub-Heading 3: Claim 8

The Examiner admits that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 4). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 8 recites a computer writing tablet to receive “handwritten” mnemonic objects. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 8. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 8 recites that the handwritten mnemonic objects are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]). Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 8 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As one example, claim 8 recites writing a mnemonic object on a computer writing tablet. Claim 8 then recites that the mnemonic object is “a user recognizable hint” for an internet address.

The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a mnemonic object for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a mnemonic object for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 8 recite that the mnemonic object is a user recognizable hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter objects that are “hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to interpret the words in claim 8 in accordance with their plain meaning.

For at least these reasons, claim 8 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 8 recites the following (emphasis added):

when each of a plurality of the Internet-associated computer data addresses is accessed on a computer separate from the computer writing tablet, writing a mnemonic object on said computer writing tablet, wherein a location on said computer writing tablet of the mnemonic object is coupled to a current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses and said mnemonic object is handwritten and a user recognizable hint for the current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses.

The Office Action appears to admit that Clary does not teach this recitation. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten mnemonic objects.”

For at least these reasons, claim 8 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

Sub-Heading 4: Claim 11

The Examiner admits that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 3). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 11 recites a computer writing tablet to receive “handwritten” symbols. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 11. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 11 recites that the handwritten symbols are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]).

Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 11 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As another example, claim 11 recites receiving a handwritten symbol for an internet site. Claim 11 then recites that the symbol is “a user recognizable hint” for the internet address.

The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a symbol for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a “symbol” for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 11 recites that the symbol is a user recognizable hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter symbols that are “hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to interpret the words in claim 11 in accordance with their plain meaning.

For at least these reasons, claim 11 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 11 recites the following (emphasis added):

selecting the **handwritten** symbol on the computer writing
tablet to cause the electronic device to navigate to the internet site.

The Office Action appears to admit that Clary does not teach this recitation. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten symbols.”

For at least these reasons, claim 11 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

Sub-Heading 5: Claim 15

The Examiner **admits** that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 4). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 15 recites an electronic device to receive “handwritten” symbols. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 15. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 15 recites that the handwritten symbols are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]). Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As another example, claim 15 recites code for storing symbols that are associated with an internet site. Claim 15 then recites that the symbols are “a user recognizable hint” for the internet address.

The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a symbol for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a “symbol”

for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 15 recites that the symbol is a user recognizable hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter symbols that are “hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to interpret the words in claim 15 in accordance with their plain meaning.

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif. The dependent claims are allowable for at least these reasons.

As yet another example, claim 15 recites the following:

computer code for accessing said Internet site address by
clicking said temporary symbols displayed on a display of the
computer writing tablet.

The Office Action appears to admit that Clary does not teach this recitation. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten symbols” (note: the claim is amended to recite that the temporary symbols are “handwritten”).

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

Sub-Heading 6: Claim 17

The Examiner admits that “Clary does not teach mnemonic symbols” (see OA mailed 03/21/07 at p. 4). Applicant agrees with this admission. The Examiner, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with Sharif. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Sharif teaches a remote control for entering text and data to a television. By contrast, claim 17 recites a writing digitizer tablet to receive “handwritten” mnemonic bookmarks. The keys on the remote control in Sharif are “predefined” and labeled on the

keypad. The keys are not “handwritten” as recited in claim 17. Also, a user presses buttons on a keypad of Sharif to enter text or data. The user does not handwrite anything. Further, claim 17 recites that the handwritten mnemonic bookmarks are hints for Internet addresses. By contrast, the buttons in Sharif are not hints for internet addresses. Instead, the buttons are “predefined” shortcuts, such as “www” or “.com” (see Sharif at paragraph [0047]). Shortcuts (“www” or “.com”) described in Sharif are not Internet addresses. The terms “www” or “.com” do not provide an Internet address. The term “www” is merely an indication for the world wide web, but not an internet address to the world wide web.

For at least these reasons, claim 17 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As another example, claim 17 recites generating bookmarks on a tablet. Claim 17 then recites that the bookmarks are a “handwritten mnemonic hint that is user recognizable” as an internet address

The Office Action argues that this recitation is shown in Clary at Fig. 3 (shown by the email region). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Fig. 3 in Clary depicts an email region for receiving handwritten email addresses. A handwritten email address, however, is not a bookmark for an email address. By contrast, an email address is the actual email address. In other words, nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter a “bookmark” for the email address instead of the actual email address. Furthermore, claim 17 recite that the bookmark is a user recognizable mnemonic hint for the internet address. Nowhere does Clary suggest that users would enter bookmarks that are “mnemonic hints” for an internet address instead of the actual internet address.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to interpret the words in claim 17 in accordance with their plain meaning.

For at least these reasons, claim 17 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

As yet another example, claim 17 recites the following (emphasis added):

associated with the combination of internet access device,
writing digitizer tablet and stylus, program code using said
digitizer tablet for generating bookmarks thereon related to

respective search resultant internet sites such that said sites are accessible directly via said bookmarks, wherein each of said bookmarks is a **handwritten** mnemonic hint that is user recognizable as a previously selected internet site address.

The Office Action appears to admit that Clary does not teach this recitation. Applicant agrees with this admission. The Office Action, however, attempts to cure this deficiency with column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Column 2, lines 45-65 in deHond states that users can click on “hyperlinked terms or graphics on a web page” and be taken to the web page. Nowhere does deHond disclose or even suggest that these hyperlinks or graphics are “handwritten mnemonic hints.”

For at least these reasons, claim 17 and its dependent claims are allowable over Clary in view of deHond and Sharif.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the Board of Appeals to reverse the Examiner's rejection of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. 832-236-5529. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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VIII. Claims Appendix

1. A computer annotator system for accessing Internet data addresses, the system comprising:

an electronic tablet having a screen with plural predefined regions that receive handwritten mnemonic symbols that are hints for different Internet data addresses;

a marking stylus associated with the tablet;

a device for associating the plural predefined regions with the Internet data addresses, wherein subsequently accessing one of the predefined regions with said stylus triggers a shift, on a display separate from the tablet, to one of said Internet data addresses associated with a handwritten mnemonic symbol in the one of the predefined regions.

2. The system as set forth in claim 1 comprising:

said tablet having at least one predetermined first surface region accessible to said stylus wherein annotating function commands are implemented.

3. The system as set forth in claim 2 comprising:

said table having at least one predetermined second surface region accessible to said stylus wherein freehand symbols indicative of the preselected data address are entered.

4. (canceled)

5. A method for indexing computer-accessible Internet sites, the method comprising:
 - accessing a first of said sites with an electronic device;
 - associating an address indicative of the first of said sites with a first location coordinate address on a computer writing tablet, separate from said electronic device, via a first handwritten mnemonic symbol that is a user recognizable hint for the first of said sites, the hint for the first of said sites being on a first random location on said writing tablet during access of said first of said sites;
 - accessing a second of said sites; and
 - associating an address indicative of the second of said sites with a second location coordinate address on the computer writing tablet via a second handwritten mnemonic symbol that is a user recognizable hint for the second of said sites, the hint for the second of said sites being on a second random location on said writing tablet during access of said second of said sites.
6. The method as set forth in claim 5 further comprising:
 - continuing said method for a plurality of computer-accessible internet sites other than said first and said second as long as there is available space for further handwritten mnemonic symbols.
7. A method as set forth in claim 5 comprising:
 - erasing a said handwritten mnemonic symbol on said writing tablet after a last access to an associated address indicative of a computer-accessible internet site.

8. A method for using a computer writing tablet, the method comprising:

associating an input-output port of the computer writing tablet with signals indicative of Internet-associated computer data addresses;

when each of a plurality of the Internet-associated computer data addresses is accessed on a computer separate from the computer writing tablet, writing a mnemonic object on said computer writing tablet, wherein a location on said computer writing tablet of the mnemonic object is coupled to a current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses and said mnemonic object is handwritten and a user recognizable hint for the current one of said Internet-associated computer data addresses; and

accessing any specific one of said plurality of the Internet-associated computer data addresses by selecting the mnemonic object associated therewith.

9. The method as set forth in claim 8 comprising:

predefining specific locations on said computer writing tablet with data indexing functions.

10. The method as set forth in claim 9 comprising:

erasing each said mnemonic object for disassociating a location from the current one of said computer data addresses associated therewith.

11. A computerized method comprising:

accessing an internet site with an electronic device;

receiving a handwritten symbol for the internet site on a screen of a computer writing tablet that is separate from the electronic device, the handwritten symbol being a user recognizable hint for the internet site; and

selecting the handwritten symbol on the computer writing tablet to cause the electronic device to navigate to the internet site.

12. The method as set forth in claim 11 comprising:

providing writing table function keys on said computer writing tablet.

13. The method as set forth in claim 11 comprising:

defining the screen as a coordinate system with plural locations, each location being a temporary bookmark for an internet site.

14. The method as set forth in claim 11 comprising:

automatically alternating access between a plurality of addresses accessed and associated with mnemonic devices by alternating current selection between said mnemonic devices with a writing tablet writing instrument.

15. A computer memory comprising:

computer code for recording temporary symbols associated with an Internet site address on a display of an electronic device, the temporary symbols being handwritten by a user and a user recognizable hint for the Internet site;

computer code associating the internet site address with a writable-erasable mnemonic device in a computer writing tablet, separate from the electronic device, for receiving said temporary symbols; and

computer code for accessing said Internet site address by clicking said temporary symbols displayed on a display of the computer writing tablet.

16. (canceled)

17. An internet search tool comprising;

an internet access device;

in communication with the internet access device, a writing digitizer tablet and associated inking stylus; and

associated with the combination of internet access device, writing digitizer tablet and stylus, program code using said digitizer tablet for generating bookmarks thereon related to respective search resultant internet sites such that said sites are accessible directly via said bookmarks, wherein each of said bookmarks is a handwritten mnemonic hint that is user recognizable as a previously selected internet site address.

18. The tool as set forth in claim 17 wherein each of said bookmarks is located in a predefined region of a coordinate system on a screen of the digitizer tablet.

19. The tool as set forth in claim 17 wherein each of said bookmarks is a temporary representation of coordinates on said writing digitizer tablet.

20. The tool as set forth in claim 19 wherein each of said bookmarks activates a jump from a current internet site address to an internet site associated with another selected one of said bookmarks.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.